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## REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the thorough examination of the present application as evidenced by the Final Office Action of June 7, 2006. In particular, Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that Claims 1, 3-8 and 10-14 are allowed. *See* Office Action, page 3. Applicants have cancelled remaining Claims 15 and 17-38 from the present application. Applicants have amended the title of the present application to conform the title to the cancellation of Claims 15 and 17-38. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested in due course.

## The Claim Rejections

Claims 15 and 17-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,380,852 to Hartman *et al.* in view of United States Patent No. 6,894,622 to Germagian *et al.* (hereinafter "Germagian"). *See* Office Action, page 2. To expedite prosecution of this matter and without prejudice to Applicants' right to file a continuation application, Claims 15 and 17-38 have been cancelled from the present application to place this case in a form indicated as allowable as discussed above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance in due course.

## CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims are in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested in due course. Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (919) 854-1400.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATION OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted electronically to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 7, 2006 using the EFS.

Erin A. Campion

Date of Signature, August 7, 2006